

**BREWSTER COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS COURT**

**JIM WESTERMANN**  
Commissioner, Pct.1

**RUBEN ORTEGA**  
Commissioner, Pct. 3



**SARA ALLEN COLANDO**  
Commissioner, Pct. 2

**MO MORROW**  
Commissioner, Pct.4

**GREG P. HENINGTON**  
County Judge

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**Regular Commissioners Meeting: March 10, 2026, at 9:30 A.M.**  
**Brewster County Courthouse, Commissioners Courtroom**  
**201 West Ave. E Alpine, Texas 79830**

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**AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order**

Judge Henington called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.; the following Elected Officials were present:

Greg Henington	County Judge
Jim Westermann	Commissioner Pct. 1
Sara Allen Colando	Commissioner Pct. 2
Ruben Ortega	Commissioner Pct. 3
Julie Morton	County Treasurer
Sarah Lujan	County Clerk

William "Mo" Morrow, Commissioner Pct. 4, was absent.

**2. Invocation**

Judge Henington led the invocation.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge were led by Judge Henington.

**4. Review, discuss and take necessary action to approve previous meeting minutes**

**A. Commissioners Court Meeting of February 24, 2026**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the February 24, 2026, minutes. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**5. Public Comment - Comments are limited to 5 minutes per person. Members of the public are also welcome to participate in public comment by calling 432-244-6663**

None.

**6. Recognition & Announcements**

Superintendent Johnny Salcido received a postcard from Mrs. Stech from Lone Star Mine Rd for taking care of the road. The Morelock family thanked the crew for taking care of their road also.

**7. Report from City of Alpine representative; discussion only, no action required**

Rick Stephens, Ward 5 City Council Member, presented an update from the City of Alpine.

#### **8. County Judge - Reports and Action Items**

##### **A. Review, discuss and take possible action to approve a resolution in support of increased funding for county road maintenance and repair. This resolution requests that the State Legislature allocated additional funding from fuel taxes to the County Lateral Roads Fund**

Judge Henington presented the resolution for additional funding from the State Legislature. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

##### **B. Review, discuss, and take action to approve bonds and oaths for the Bookkeeper and Deputy District Clerk**

Judge Henington clarified "Bookkeeper" needs to be named "Deputy Treasurer". Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the bonds and oaths for Deputy Treasurer and Deputy District Clerk. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

##### **C. Ratification and/or approval of the following Agreements:**

- 1. Sunshine House, Inc.**
- 2. Elm Grove Cemetery**
- 3. Holy Angels Cemetery**
- 4. Marathon Latin American Cemetery**
- 5. Marathon Cemetery**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the above named agreements. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

##### **D. Review, discuss and take action regarding a resolution opposing the construction of a physical wall in the Big Bend area**

Judge Henington presented a resolution opposing the construction of a physical wall in the Big Bend area. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the resolution to oppose a physical wall in the Big Bend area. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Ortega announced Commissioner Morrow's support of this resolution.

##### **E. Review, discuss and take action on a Mutual Aid Agreement between the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Brewster, Jeff Davis and Presidio Counties**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement to assist with fires between Ysleta del Sur Pueblo. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

#### **10. Review, discuss and take action on the follow roof replacement/repair projects; funding to come from Historical Preservation Funds**

##### **A. Marathon Jail proposal**

##### **B. Brewster County Courthouse proposal**

Judge Henington presented two quotes to be paid from the Historical Preservation Funds. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Marathon Jail and Brewster County Courthouse roof replacements and to be paid from the Historical Preservation fund. Commissioner Colando second the motion; motion passed 4-0.

##### **C. Proof of Insurance coverage and references**

**11. Review, discuss and take action to approve a \$50,000 contribution to the City of Alpine for the purchase of a new animal crematorium. LATCF will be a funding source. Funding subject to final interlocal agreement between the City of Alpine and Brewster County regarding stray animals**

### **A. Request for Proposals**

Councilman Stephens announced the City of Alpine is going out for a bid. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the new animal crematorium. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

### **12. Review, discuss and take action to renew the Lease Agreement between Susan Combs, et al and Brewster County for the Post Park in Marathon, Texas**

#### **A. Proposed Lease Agreement**

Judge Henington presented a renewed lease agreement between Susan Combs, et al and Brewster County. The original lease expired in 1999 and the updated terms and agreement as long as it remains a public park and pay back rent. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

### **13. Review, discuss and take possible action to declare the following as salvage and eligible for online auction and, if not sold in 10 days by public auction, available for destruction or disposal (LGC 263.151, 263.152)**

#### **A. Various Windows**

#### **B. Wooden Swinging Doors and Fencing**

Commissioner Ortega moved to declare the presented items as salvage for auction. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

### **14. Road & Bridge Department**

#### **A. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Johnny Salcido presented the Road and Bridge department's general report.

#### **B. Review, discuss and take appropriate action for general work/ permits/ contract of Road & Bridge Department**

None.

### **15. Emergency Management Department**

#### **A. General Report - Emergency Management Coordinator**

James Etchinson, Emergency Management Coordinator, presented an Emergency Management Department.

#### **C. Review, discuss and take possible action to renew or modify the Brewster County Burn Ban from March 13, 2026, through July 01, 2026**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Burn Ban from March 13, 2026, through July 1, 2026. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

#### **B. Review, discuss and take action to purchase a 2026 Ford F-250 for Emergency Management. Funding to come from LATCF**

Judge Henington announced Enterprise found an F250 model available for purchase. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the quoted price of the F250 model and up to an additional \$10,000 for the needed truck equipment. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

### **16. Treasurer's Office**

#### **A. Financial Reports / Updates**

No reports.

#### **B. Discussion, review, and appropriate action related to financial administration and policies**

None.

### **C. Grant Approval & Administration**

None.

#### **17. Brewster County Comptroller**

##### **A. General Bills / Discussion and appropriate action regarding to B. Invoices with Purchase Orders**

Malynda Richarson, County Comptroller, presented the general bills and the invoices with purchase orders. Commissioner Ortega stepped out. Commissioner Colando moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 3-0. Commissioner Ortega returned after the vote.

##### **C. Invoices without Purchase Orders**

Comptroller Richadson presented the two invoice packets without purchase orders. Commissioner Colando moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

##### **D. Recurring Expenses**

Comptroller Richardson presented the recurring expenses. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

##### **E. Line-Item Adjustments**

None.

##### **F. Budget Amendments**

Comptroller Richardson presented the FY25 HIDTA Operation for K9 Milo needing better transportation, shortage for Brewster County Tourism, and need of reimbursements. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Budget Amendment as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

##### **G. Other Reports**

None.

##### **H. Discussion, review, and appropriate action related to financial administration and policies**

None.

#### **18. Brewster County Tourism**

##### **A. Report from Robert Alvarez, Executive Director:**

###### **General update, travel shows, marketing, finances, visitation status, project reports and issues**

Robert Alvarez, Executive Director of Visit Big Bend, presented an update. The approved resolution opposing the physical wall will be posted on the Tourism website.

###### **B. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to approve contract with two page spread in Unplug Magazine with advertorial and digital component**

###### **C. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to approve contract with Texas monthly full pg ad with summer travel issue content**

###### **D. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to approve contract with Ibex Consulting - OTT TV Campaign for East Coast**

###### **E. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to approve contract with Blues on the Green - Austin concert sponsorship**

###### **F. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to approve contract with Texas Highways Digital Content for 2026**

###### **G. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to approve contract with CBS Austin - March Madness Sports TV Streaming: Gold Package \$10k**

Judge Henington moved to approve the presented contracts. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**19. Closed meeting of Commissioners Court, if necessary**

If, during the course of the meeting covered by the notice, the Commissioners Court needs to meet in executive session, then such closed or executive meeting or session, pursuant to Chapter 551, Government Code of Texas, will be held by the Commissioners Court on the date, hour, and place given in the notice or as soon after the commencement of the meeting covered by this notice as the Court may conveniently meet in such closed or executive meeting or session convening and concerning any and all subjects and for any and all purposes permitted by Chapter 551 of said Government Code. If necessary, following any closed or executive meeting the Commissioners Court will convene in open session to take any final action, decision, or vote on any matter deliberated in closed meeting which has properly been noticed in compliance with Chapter 551 Government Code of Texas.

**20. Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on March 24, 2026, at 9:30 A.M.**


Judge Henington announced the next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on March 24, 2026, at 9:30 A.M.

**9. Presentation from Big Bend Regional Hospital District regarding rural health care initiative; Discussion and possible action**

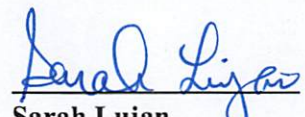
Judge Henington spoke on the rural health care initiative. An MOU Agreement will be presented when available.

**21. Adjourn**

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:40 A.M.

  
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**Greg P. Henington**  
Brewster County Judge



  
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**Sarah Lujan**  
Brewster County Clerk

**PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:** The Brewster County Commissioners Court reserves the right to conduct an executive/closed meeting session to discuss and deliberate any of the items listed on the agenda instrument posted for this meeting, as permitted by law, including all applicable open meeting exceptions recognized by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code ("Chapter 551," the Texas Open Meetings Act), or other applicable statute, including without limitation the following Chapter 551 exceptions: §§ 551.071 and 551.129 (consultation with attorney); § 551.072 (deliberation regarding real property); § 551.0725 (deliberation regarding contract being negotiated); § 551.073 (deliberation regarding prospective gift); § 551.074 (deliberation regarding personnel matters); § 551.0745 (deliberation regarding personnel matters affecting county advisory board); § 551.076 (deliberation regarding security devices or security audits); § 551.0785 (deliberations involving medical or psychiatric records of individuals); and § 551.087 (deliberation regarding economic development negotiations).